

2014 Rural Mail Count

I. PREFACE

A. Purpose and Content

USPS-FY14-40 aggregates data collected from the two recent (February/March, 2014 and February/March, 2013) Rural Mail Counts (RMC) for two purposes: 1) to determine the sizes of the cost pools by route type ('Evaluated' and 'Other'); and 2) to use the results from part 1) to calculate volume variability factors for by route type. The relevant results of this aggregation are included in USPS-FY14-32 and USPS-FY14-NP14 (commonly called the "B" Workpapers) in workbook I-Forms, tab I-Factors.

B. Predecessor Documents

ACR 2013, USPS-FY13-40.

C. Corresponding Non-Public or Public Document

There is no corresponding Non-Public document to USPS-FY14-40.

D. Methodology Changes

None

E. Input/Output

USPS-FY14-40 relies on no inputs from other ACR materials. Outputs are used by USPS-FY14-32 and USPS-FY14-NP14.

II. ORGANIZATION

The relevant source code and RMC data are provided on the accompanying CD-ROM. The contents of the CD-ROM are described below.

The CD-ROM that accompanies USPS-FY14-40 includes the following files:

USPS-FY14-40.Preface.pdf	Preface
FY2013.March.RMCFlat.data	RMC Dataset
FY2014.March.RMCFlat.data	RMC Dataset
RMC2014AnalysisforCRA.sas	SAS program for analysis of RMC data

III. RMC DOCUMENTATION

A. Overview

USPS-FY14-40 contains the RMC data, SAS program, SAS log, and SAS output from the February/March, 2014 RMC.

The RMC consists of data collected from the most recent route evaluation performed on each active rural route. The data includes the route type ('Evaluated' and 'Other'), counts for each evaluation item, and the time allowance given for each evaluation item. The output from the SAS program is used in two ways: 1) to determine the sizes of the cost pools by route type; and 2) to use the results from part 1) to calculate volume variability factors by route type. Two recent evaluations were used for the FY2014 Cost and Revenue Analysis Report (CRA). The RMC conducted in February/March, 2013 was used for quarters 1 and 2 of FY2014, whereas the RMC conducted in February/March, 2014 was used for quarters 3 and 4 of FY2014.

B. Use of RMC in Cost Attribution

Rural carrier variability ratios are used to divide total rural carrier labor costs into variable and non-variable costs, as shown in USPS-FY14-32 and USPS-FY14-NP14, workbook CS10.xls, tab WS 10.0.1. Average weekly pieces are used to divide variable evaluation factors into cost pools for each rural evaluation category, such as letters, flats, and parcels delivered. This analysis using the February/March, 2013 RMC data is shown in workbook CS10.xls, tabs WS10.1.1 PQ1-2 and WS10.2.1 PQ 1-2. This analysis using the February/March, 2014 RMC data is shown in workbook CS10.xls, tabs 10.2.1 PQ3-4 and WS 10.2.1 PQ 3-4.

C. RMC Data and Analysis

The RMC dataset contains the most recent evaluation for each rural route. The February/March, 2014 dataset has 72,212 records, and the February/March 2013 dataset has 72,315 records. Each record represents a route and it includes the type of route ('Evaluated' and 'Other'), totals by each evaluation factor, number of days the route was counted, and the time allotment by evaluation item. Those data elements are used to compute the average time by evaluation category per route. The averages are then aggregated by route type for each evaluation item. Each evaluation item is treated as either 'fixed' (e.g. boxes served) or 'variable' (e.g. DPS letters delivered). The volume variability factor for each route type is calculated by taking ratio of the sum of all variable evaluation factors to the total over the sum of fixed and variable evaluation factors by route type.

D. SAS Log Listing

The SAS log listing includes the format of the input RMC data file. This is the listing using the February/March, 2014 RMC data file.

```
245 options nocenter;
246 options nodate;
247 options nonumber;
248
```

249 ***** SET PATH NAME AS APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR COMPUTER;
250
252 filename MAIL 'U:\RURAL\RMCDATA\fy2014\MAR2014.RMCFLAT.DATA';
253
254 *****READ IN UNIVERSE DATA;
255 DATA A ; INFILE MAIL LRECL=820 ;
256 Input
257 RTTYPE \$ 1-5
258 MILES 6-10 .2
259 BOXESR 11-20
260 BOXESC 21-30
261 NDCBU 31-40
262 PARLOCK 41-50
263 LETTERS 51-60
264 FLATS 61-70
265 PARCELS 71-80
266 BOXHOLD 81-90
267 REGCERT 91-100
268 CODCUST 101-110
269 CHGADDR 111-120
270 MARKUP 121-130
271 f3821 131-140
272 DPS 141-150
273 SECSEG 151-160
274 MONORDR 161-170
275 LETCOLL 171-180
276 PARCACC 181-190
277 REGACC 191-200
278 POSTDUE 201-210
279 LOADING 211-220
280 ALLOW 221-230
281 DSMOUNT 231-240
282 DSMFEET 241-250
283 PURCHST 251-260 .2
284 RETRCT 261-270 .2
285 POUCHST 271-280 .2
286 DLLETTRT 281-290 .2
287 DLFLATT 291-300 .2
288 DLPAROT 301-310 .2
289 DLPARRT 311-320 .2
290 WITHDT 321-330 .2
291 STRAPT 331-340 .2
292 LOADNGT 341-350 .2
293 RETRCTT 351-360 .2
294 DISMNTT 361-370 .2
295 DISMNTDT 371-380 .2
296 BOXHLDT 381-390 .2
297 CODCSOT 391-400 .2
298 DLREGOT 401-410 .2
299 MARKUPT 411-420 .2
300 ADDREST 421-430 .2
301 MNORDOT 431-440 .2
302 COLLFT 441-450 .2
303 PPACCOT 451-460 .2
304 STAMPST 461-470 .2
305 F3821T 471-480 .2
306 ALLOWT 481-490 .2
307 POSTDUT 491-500 .2
308 PERSNLT 501-510 .2
309 CODCSRT 511-520 .2
310 DLREGRT 521-530 .2
311 MNORDRT 531-540 .2
312 PPACCR 541-550 .2
313 COLREGT 551-560 .2
314 MILEST 561-570 .2
315 BOXESRT 571-580 .2
316 BOXESCT 581-590 .2
317 NDCBUT 591-600 .2
318 PARLKCT 601-610 .2
319 POUCHT 611-620 .2
320 SECSEGT 621-630 .2

```

321 DPST 631-640 .2
322 GOVVEHT 641-650 .2
323 REUNLDT 651-660 .2
324 TOTHRHS 661-670 .2
325 TOTMIN 671-680 .2
326 ACTLHRS 681-690 .2
327 YEAR 691-695
328 SCANITEM 696-705
329 CPU 706-715
330 CPUITEM 716-725
331 DPSFLAT 726-735
332 PARS 736-745
333 SCANT 746-755 .2
334 SCNITEMT 756-765 .2
335 CPUOFCT 766-775 .2
336 CPURTET 776-785 .2
337 CPUITEMT 786-795 .2
338 DPSFLATT 796-805 .2
339 PARST 806-815 .2
340 Cntlen 816
341 LSTATUS $ 818
342 GOVVEH $ 820 ;
343
344

```

NOTE: The infile MAIL is:

File Name=U:\RURAL\RMCDATA\fy2014\MAR2014.RMCFLAT.DATA,
RECFM=V,LRECL=820

NOTE: 72212 records were read from the infile MAIL.

The minimum record length was 820.
The maximum record length was 820.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72212 observations and 86 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.72 seconds
cpu time	0.73 seconds

```

345 data a; set a;
346
347 IF RTTYPE = 'H' OR RTTYPE = 'J' OR RTTYPE = 'K' THEN TYPE = 'EVAL';
348 ELSE IF RTTYPE = 'A' OR RTTYPE = 'M' THEN TYPE = 'OTHR';
349 ELSE DELETE;
350
351

```

NOTE: There were 72212 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72212 observations and 87 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.12 seconds
cpu time	0.12 seconds

```
352 PROC FREQ ; TABLES YEAR*TYPE;
```

NOTE: There were 72212 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: PROCEDURE FREQ used (Total process time):

real time	0.10 seconds
cpu time	0.03 seconds

```

353 DATA A; SET A;
354
355 LETTERS = LETTERS / CNTLEN;
356 FLATS = FLATS / CNTLEN;
357 PARCELS = PARCELS / CNTLEN;
358 BOXHOLD = BOXHOLD / CNTLEN;
359 REGCERT = REGCERT / CNTLEN;
360 CODCUST = CODCUST / CNTLEN;
361 MARKUP = MARKUP / CNTLEN;
362 MONORDR = MONORDR / CNTLEN;
363 DPS = DPS / CNTLEN;

```

```

364 LETCOLL = LETCOLL / CNTLEN;
365 PARCACC = PARCACC / CNTLEN;
366 REGACC = REGACC / CNTLEN;
367 POSTDUE = POSTDUE / CNTLEN;
368 LOADING = LOADING / CNTLEN;
369 RETRCT = RETRCT / CNTLEN;
370 SECSEG = SECSEG / CNTLEN;
371 F3821 = F3821 / CNTLEN;
372 CHGADDR = CHGADDR / CNTLEN;
373 DSMOUNT = DSMOUNT / CNTLEN;
374 DSMFEET = DSMFEET / CNTLEN;
375 SCANITEM = SCANITEM / CNTLEN;
376 CPU = CPU / CNTLEN;
377 CPUITEM = CPUITEM / CNTLEN;
378 DPSFLAT = DPSFLAT / CNTLEN;
379 PARS = PARS / CNTLEN;
380
381 ****;
382 *** CALCULATE AVERAGE VALUES PER ROUTE      ***;
383 ****;

```

NOTE: There were 72212 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72212 observations and 87 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

```

real time      0.11 seconds
cpu time      0.12 seconds

```

```

384 DATA A; SET A;
385 BOXESRL = 0;
386 L=0;
387 IF LSTATUS = 'L' THEN DO
388   BOXESRL = BOXESR;
389   BOXESR=0;
390   L = 1;
391 END;
392 *;
393 *SEASONAL ROUTES WILL HAVE VERY LOW MILEAGE PUT IN TO KEEP;
394 *ROUTE ACTIVE, SO REMOVE ROUTES WITH LOW MILEAGE;
395 *;
396 IF LETTERS = 0 or MILES LE .5 then delete;
397 OUTPUT;

```

NOTE: There were 72212 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72191 observations and 89 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

```

real time      0.11 seconds
cpu time      0.09 seconds

```

```

398 DATA A; SET A;
399 *;
400 *NEW STARTING OCT 30 2004 - ALL RURAL ROUTES TO GET 18 MIN;
401 *FOR RELOAD/UNLOAD TIME. SEE MOU;
402 *EVALUATION MAY NOT SHOW THIS, SO PUT IT IN;
403 *THE 18 MIN IS THE SAME REGARDLESS OF VOLUME, SO PUT IN;
404 *FIXED TIME;
405 *;
406 REUNLDT = 18;
407 *;
408 *ALSO, IN FY 2005 ADDED IN GOVERNMENT VEHICLE USAGE TIME
409 *TO FIXED FACTORS;
410 ****;
411 * NEW FOR FY 2009;
412 * SCANT = 6 MIN PER WEEK;
413 * SCANNER ITEMS = NON-SIGNATURE SCANT ITEMS, 18 SEC PER SCAN;
414 * INCLUDES DEL CON, SCAN, DU SAT & BUN SCANT
415 * CARRIER PICKUP = NUMBER OF REQUESTS (90 SEC PER REQUEST),
416 *           NUMBER OF ITEMS (9 SEC PER ITEM),
417 *           INCLUDES EM, PRIO, INTL
418 * 3982 LABELS = PARS LABEL, 15 SEC
419 ****;

```

```

420 * CALCULATE THE AVERAGE VALUE PER WEEK FOR EACH EVALUATION ITEM **;
421 * TO PUT INTO SPREADSHEETS WS 10.1.1 AND 10.2.1      **;
422 ****;
423 * FSS EVALUATION FACTOR (I.E. DPS FLATS) DIFFERENT FOR GOVVEH / NON GOVVEH - NEW FY 2011;
424 * new for sept. 2012 RMC do same for DPS;
425
426 FSS1 = 0; FSS2 = 0;
427 DPS1 = 0; DPS2 = 0;
428 IF GOVVEH = 'G' THEN DO;
429   FSS1 = DPSFLAT; FSS2 = 0;
430   DPS1 = DPS; DPS2=0;
431 END;
432 ELSE DO;
433   FSS2 = DPSFLAT; FSS1 = 0;
434   DPS2 = DPS; DPS1 = 0;
435 END;
436

```

NOTE: There were 72191 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72191 observations and 93 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.11 seconds
cpu time	0.12 seconds

```

437 DATA A; SET A;
438 IF LSTATUS = 'L' THEN HD = 1; ELSE HD = 0;
439

```

NOTE: There were 72191 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72191 observations and 94 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.11 seconds
cpu time	0.10 seconds

```

440 PROC SORT DATA = A; BY TYPE;
441 TITLE1 'THE MEANS OF THE VARIABLES ON THE ROUTES:';

```

NOTE: There were 72191 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72191 observations and 94 variables.

NOTE: PROCEDURE SORT used (Total process time):

real time	0.22 seconds
cpu time	0.21 seconds

```

442 PROC MEANS DATA=A MEAN STD;
443 BY TYPE;
444 VAR MILES BOXESR BOXESCT BOXESRL NDCBUT PARLOCK POUCHT WITHDT
445 LETTERS FLATS PARCELS BOXHOLD CODCUST REGCERT MARKUP CHGADDR
446 F3821 LOADING PERSNLT MONORDR LETCOLL PARCACC REGACC POSTDUE
447 STAMPST RETRCT ALLOWT DSMOUNT DSMFEET DPS1 DPS2 SECSEG REUNLDT GOVVEHT
448 SCANT SCANITEM CPU CPUITEM FSS1 FSS2 PARS ;
449

```

NOTE: There were 72191 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: PROCEDURE MEANS used (Total process time):

real time	0.14 seconds
cpu time	0.11 seconds

```

450 DATA A; SET A;
451 ****;
452 *OTHER CHANGES FY 2009:
453 *1. FORMS 3579 NO LONGER USED;
454 *2. REPLACE WITH FORM 3821 CLEARANCE ITEMS - TREAT AS FIXED      ;
455 *3. APR 2009 - NO REQUIREMENT FOR LOADING TIME TO BE <= 90;
456 *4. NO LONGER APPLICABLE - STAMPS TIME IS 20 MINUTES FOR      ;
457 * ROUTE REGARDLESS OF L STATUS (4/23/09)
458 ****;
459 STAMPTF = STAMPST; STAMPTV = 0;
460 LOADTF = LOADNGT *.5;

```

```

461 LOADTV = LOADNGT * .5;
462 F3821TF = F3821T;
463
464 IF PPACCRT = 0 THEN PPACCRT = PPACCOT;
465
466 FIXED = MILEST + BOXESRT + BOXESCT + NDCBUT + PARLCKT + POUCHT
467     + WITHDHT + ADDREST + F3821TF + LOADTF + PERSNLT + STAMPTF
468     + ALLOWT + DISMNTT + DISMNTDT + GOVVEHT + REUNLDT + PARST + SCANT;
469 VARIABLE =
470     DLLETRT + DLFLATT + DLPAROT + DLPARRT
471     + BOXHLDT + CODCSOT + CODCSRT
472     + DLREGOT + DLREGRT + MARKUPT + STRAPTF + LOADTV
473     + MNORDOT + MNORDRT + COLLFT + PPACCOT + PPACCRT + COLREGT
474     + POSTDUT + STAMPTV + RETRCTT + DPST + SECSEGT + CPUOFCT + CPURTET +
475     + CPUITEMT + DPSFLATT + SCNITEMT ;
476
477 TOTAL = FIXED + VARIABLE;
478 RATIO = VARIABLE/TOTAL;

```

NOTE: There were 72191 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72191 observations and 103 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.11 seconds
cpu time	0.12 seconds

```
479 PROC SORT DATA=A; BY TYPE;
```

NOTE: There were 72191 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72191 observations and 103 variables.

NOTE: PROCEDURE SORT used (Total process time):

real time	0.15 seconds
cpu time	0.18 seconds

```
480 PROC MEANS DATA=A NOPRINT;
```

```
481 BY TYPE;
```

```
482 VAR VARIABLE TOTAL;
```

```
483 OUTPUT OUT=VAR MEAN=;
```

NOTE: There were 72191 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.VAR has 2 observations and 5 variables.

NOTE: PROCEDURE MEANS used (Total process time):

real time	0.05 seconds
cpu time	0.03 seconds

```
484 DATA VAR; SET VAR;
```

```
485 VARRAT = VARIABLE/TOTAL;
```

NOTE: There were 2 observations read from the data set WORK.VAR.

NOTE: The data set WORK.VAR has 2 observations and 6 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.01 seconds
cpu time	0.01 seconds

```
486 PROC PRINT DATA=VAR;
```

```
487 TITLE1 'RATIO OF VARIABLE TO TOTAL FOR EVAL/OTHER';
```

```
488 RUN;
```

NOTE: There were 2 observations read from the data set WORK.VAR.

NOTE: PROCEDURE PRINT used (Total process time):

real time	0.00 seconds
cpu time	0.00 seconds

E. SAS Program Output

This is the listing using the February/March 2014 RMC data file.

RATIO OF VARIABLE TO TOTAL FOR EVAL/OTHER

The FREQ Procedure

Table of YEAR by TYPE

YEAR TYPE

	Frequency,	Percent ,	Row Pct ,	Col Pct ,	EVAL	OTHR	Total
2011	2	0	2		0.00	0.00	0.00
					100.00	0.00	
					0.00	0.00	
2012	29294	18	29312		40.57	0.02	40.59
					99.94	0.06	
					44.04	0.32	
2013	17832	33	17865		24.69	0.05	24.74
					99.82	0.18	
					26.81	0.58	
2014	19383	5650	25033		26.84	7.82	34.67
					77.43	22.57	
					29.14	99.11	
Total	66511	5701	72212		92.11	7.89	100.00

THE MEANS OF THE VARIABLES ON THE ROUTES:

TYPE=EVAL

The MEANS Procedure

Variable	Mean	Std Dev
MILES	50.1167467	30.0009379
BOXESR	196.9847836	242.5059380
BOXESCT	123.4507044	217.3044019
BOXESRL	273.8999353	282.7551026
NDCBUT	7.4522983	14.8016098
PARLOCK	11.6146571	24.2851766
POUCHT	0.8015698	6.4576330
WITHDT	26.5298390	9.5950090
LETTERS	1566.55	1204.92
FLATS	2778.02	1044.24
PARCELS	270.2037755	101.4341093
BOXHOLD	578.4604578	491.0192982
CODCUST	0.0881135	0.3722373
REGCERT	20.3834183	14.3662078
MARKUP	70.0514181	35.2522783
CHGADDR	1.1503676	2.4452266
f3821	4.2352835	2.2604351
LOADING	54.1902306	16.4318735
PERSNLT	30.0000000	0
MONORDR	0.0573348	0.5332899
LETCOLL	646.0749445	478.4711048

PARCACC	0.9950707	4.6455017
REGACC	0.3977025	3.5781075
POSTDUE	1.7355466	2.7031675
STAMPST	20.0000000	0
RETRCT	0.0771172	3.0861364
ALLOWT	37.1861142	25.6140958
DSMOUNT	50.8969382	122.9675757
DSMFEET	4798.04	9527.32
DPS1	5660.28	5630.32
DPS2	3054.23	3769.77
SECSEG	66.5900381	439.5930204
REUNLDT	18.0000000	0
GOVVEHT	16.9430234	16.3091516
SCANT	6.0000000	0
SCANITEM	296.1677493	147.6102682
CPU	3.3026699	4.6470489
CPUITEM	14.3470988	55.0292344
FSS1	209.4168659	698.1045798
FSS2	0.6577879	34.3498376
PARS	3.4584555	3.2586633

TYPE=OTHR

Variable	Mean	Std Dev
MILES	30.7503589	19.3314080
BOXESR	123.3655876	123.2974657
BOXESCT	66.8810697	127.8085197
BOXESRL	90.1972203	139.3301071
NDCBUT	4.0751232	11.3313081
PARLOCK	5.7767417	13.4444438
POUCHT	1.9792400	10.9726962
WITHDT	23.3128079	12.4869795
LETTERS	864.6770174	968.9014448
FLATS	1137.06	599.6155833
PARCELS	127.5807823	75.0844446
BOXHOLD	272.8125733	270.3555404
CODCUST	0.0391743	0.2176987
REGCERT	9.2010028	8.6294811
MARKUP	44.7442822	24.7460761
CHGADDR	0.5433673	1.4197021
f3821	2.6917370	2.2158159
LOADING	32.9080753	13.7480638
PERSNLT	30.0000000	0
MONORDR	0.0619575	0.5286182
LETCOLL	297.1858726	306.7872141
PARCACC	0.6198686	3.7439283
REGACC	0.2194464	3.3120840

THE MEANS OF THE VARIABLES ON THE ROUTES:

TYPE=OTHR

The MEANS Procedure

Variable	Mean	Std Dev
POSTDUE	0.7879721	1.4943601
STAMPST	20.0000000	0
RETRCT	0.0167136	0.5776670
ALLOWT	27.6586946	59.7288358
DSMOUNT	27.2630776	45.7134095
DSMFEET	2997.67	6186.90
DPS1	1638.11	2508.54
DPS2	1256.29	2028.67
SECSEG	449.9095707	810.6827682
REUNLDT	18.0000000	0

GOVVEHT	13.4841450	15.5263173
SCANT	6.0000000	0
SCANITEM	146.7330225	103.7039637
CPU	1.7358081	3.2471089
CPUITEM	7.8455606	34.3428830
FSS1	39.7514954	235.3778895
FSS2	0.7532548	26.0287210
PARS	1.6920009	2.9747116

RATIO OF VARIABLE TO TOTAL FOR EVAL/OTHER

Obs	TYPE	_TYPE_	_FREQ_	VARIABLE	TOTAL	VARRAT
1	EVAL	0	66507	1090.19	2958.03	0.36855
2	OTHR	0	5684	503.93	1545.70	0.32602